

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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P R 151000Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7515

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 12238

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR CH

SUBJ: WANG HUNG-WEN

1. AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN, HOOSE, WHO IS ON HIS WAY TO CANTON FAIR, DROPPED IN ON OTHER BUSINESS BUT CAME UP WITH FOLLOWING REPORT ON WANG HUNG-WEN. HOOSE HEARD THIS FROM CONTACT OF HIS WHO IN TURN IS REPORTEDLY WELL CONNECTED IN HIGHER CHINESE CIRCLES.

2. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT WANG HUNG -WEN STILL HOLD HIS POSITION, BUT WAS ORDERED BY CHAIRMAN MAO TO RECEIVE "RE-EDUCATION" IN SHANGHAI, WHERE HE WILL REMAIN " FOR QUITE A LONG TIME MORE", UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:
LAST MAY OR JUNE, CHAIRMAN MAO ASKED WANG HUNG-WEN: "HOW WILL THINGS BE IN CHINA TWENTY YEARS AFTER I DIE?"
WANG REPLIED IN SUBSTANCE: "THEY WILL BE GREAT -- EVERYONE WILL STILL BE FOLLOWING YOUR TEACHINGS". MAO IS SUPPOSED
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THEN TO HAVE SAID, "YOU ARE WRONG, AND I AM NOT IMPRESSED

BY YOUR JUDGEMENT. YOU MUST RECEIVE QUITE A LONG RE-EDUCATION."
SO WANG WILL NOT TAKE ACTIVE PART IN THE PRC GOVERNMENT FOR
SOME TIME AND IS IN SHANGHAI RECEIVING RE-EDUCATION AS A
COMMON LABORER IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY, ALTHOUGH HE MAY
APPEAR OPENLY IN SHANGHAI ONCE IN AWHILE.

3. SOON THEREAFTER, MAO ASKED THE SAME QUESTION OF CHANG CHUN-CHIAO:

CHANG'S ANSWER:

"THINGS WILL BE IN DISARRAY 20 YEARS AFTER YOUR DEATH,
EXCEPTING THAT IT IS LUCKY YOU ASKED ME NOW,
WHEN WE HAVE TIME TO PLAN TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS".
WHEREUPON, SO THE STORY GOES, CHAIRMAN MAO WAS VERY
IMPRESSED AND SAID THAT WAS THE CORRECT ANSWER. MAO NOW
IS WORKING ON HIS POST-DEATH PROBLEMS WITH CHANG
CHUN-CHIAO, WHO IS IN A "VERY INFLUENTIAL" POSITION AT
THIS TIME BECAUSE HE HAS MAO'S APPROVAL.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS AN INTERESTING STORY AND
FITS FACTS AS WE KNOW THEM. HOWEVER, HOOSE
IS OCCASIONALLY INCLINED TO EXAGGERATE
THE INSIDE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS CHINESE CONTACTS.
AS FAR AS CHANG CHUN-CHIAO IS CONCERNED
HIS STAR WHILE HIGH HAS NOT RISEN
NOTICEABLY AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE TO TELL.
CROSS

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